Grant of deemed university status to BIT. Mesra, Ranchi

2887. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the U.G.C. Act 1956, the Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi was granted deemed university status in August, 1986;

(b) whether as per the said Act the consent of the Ranchi University and the Government of Bihar was sought prior to grantnig the deemed university status to the Institute;

(c) whether the financial aspect relating to functioning of the BIT. Mesra were examined before granting the deemed university status, and if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) whether the accounts thereof had not been audited by Auditor General Bihar before the grant of such status?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The U.G.C. Act does not provide for taking prior assent of the concerned university/State Government for granting deemed university to an institution. However, the State Government was consulted in the matter.

(c) The proposal was examined keeping in view the U.G.C. guidelines which, inter alia, lay down that the institution should have the necessary financial resources and viability.

(d) The Institute has been submitting its statement of accounts audited by a Chartered Accountant in respect of the grants sanctioned by the Ministry.

Sufficiency in life-saving drugs

2888. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some life-saving drugs are not available in the country in sufficient quantities;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken to procure these drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): As per information furnished by the Ministry of Industry, Department of Chemicals and Petro-chemicals:

(a) and (b) Reports on shortages of some important drugs like Anitron and Maxetol tablets in some parts of the country were received.

(c) The producer company M/s. S. G. Pharmaceuticals, Daroda have informed that the shortages were due to disruption in production because of non-availability of the bulk drugs. The company has not come the difficulties and resumed normal production, based on the Ministry of Industry's advise, the company has already rushed sufficient stocks to various, parts of the country.

Sale of trawlers by Union Carbide

2889. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Union Carbide is fast selling away its fishing boats to Indian companies;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Director General of Shipping has given permission for sales of such fishing trawlers to Union Carbide without proper inspection of their seaworthiness;

(c) whether it is a fact that Union Carbide has sold such old fishing vessels to innocent buyers in Visakhapatnam; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Govt. In this regard indicating those taken to have a proper examination of all fishing vessels which were earlier owned by union Carbide?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) During 1985 and 1986 permission has been given to Union Carbide to sell 8 fishing trawlers.

(b) No Sir, the fishing trawlers have been surveyed at intervals by the MMD Surveyors at Visakhapatnam as and when they were plying to sea;

(c) The Buyers which are registered companies, are expected to have bought the fishing trawlers after inspecting the vessels on "As is where is" basis and before plying, have to ensure that the trawlers is seaworthy as per provisions of Merchant Shipping Act.

(d) All fishing trawlers are issued a safety equipment record, valid generally for 2 years subject to general inspections at intervals, if considered necessary by the MMD Surveyors, and have to comply for life saving and fire fighting equipment, before plying, as per provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act.

Doctor employed by Indian Railways

2890. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Allopathic, Homoeopathic, Unani and Ayurvedic Physicians employed in the Indian Railways;

(b) whether there is any proposal to augment their strength; and

(c) what is the total number of Allopathic, Homoeopathic, Unani and Ayurvedic dispensaries and Hospitals maintained by the Indian Railways in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There are 2526 Allopathic Doctors on Indian Railways. No Homoeopathic, Ayurvedic or Unani Dactors are on the pay-rolls of the Railways.

(b) The medical services are augmented on need basis, subject to availability of funds.

(c) There are 107 Hospitals and 635 dispensaries under Allopathic systems on Indian Railways. In addition 77 Homoeopathic and 2 Ayurvedic dispensaries are functioning under the aegis of the Railway Staff Benefit Fund Scheme.

Vocational courses

2891. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of States and Union Territories which have introduced vocational courses at the higher secondary stage; and

(b) what are the details of progress made in these States and Union Territories in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) A statement containing tabular information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.